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News Release

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OFFICERS EARN NURSING, GRADUATE DEGREES AT USU

BETHESDA, Md. – Four U.S. Public Health Service officers were among 238 students recognized during the 24th Commencement of the Uniformed Services University's F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine and Graduate School of Nursing May 17.

Three USPHS officers were among 62 graduate students in the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine:

Master of public health -- **Lt. Gregory Langham** and **Lt. Cmdr. Sharon White**

Master of public health – health services administration – **Lt. Cmdr. Monica Kueney**

Another officer was among 24 graduate students in nursing. This year, USPHS * **Capt. Barbara A. Braden** was one of the degree recipients from the Graduate School of Nursing's nurse practitioner program. Since the GSN was created in 1993, 197 officers have received their master of science in nursing degrees from the school.

The USU graduation took place on the school's athletic field under a large tent that seated about 3,000 graduates, faculty, family and friends. The venue was chosen this year as a tribute to the numerous USU alumni who during the last several months cared for the wounded in deployable hospital tents in the Middle East during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

U.S. Public Health Service Vice Adm. Richard H. Carmona, the U.S. Surgeon General, was the Commencement 2003 guest speaker. Carmona was also one of three honorary degree recipients, receiving the degree of Doctor of Military Medicine and Surgery, *Honoris Causa*. John A. Mannick, M.D., also received the degree of Doctor of Military Medicine and Surgery, *Honoris Causa*, and U.S. Army Maj. Alfred V. Rascon received the degree of Doctor of Medical Jurisprudence, *Honoris Causa*.

USU was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. With its motto "Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way," the university has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.

*** Elected to Uniformed Services University Graduate School of Nursing Honor Society**